CLAIM LISTING

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for modulating cell proliferation or promoting cell differentiation, comprising treating a cell with a bilin, wherein the cell is selected from the group consisting of liposarcoma cell, thyroid carcinoma cell and lymphoblast cell.

Claims 2-9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method for regulating promoting differentiation of a cell, comprising treating [[a]] the cell with a

bilin represented by the general formula (I):

wherein W, independently for each occurrence, represents -CL₂-, -C(=O)-, -C(=S)-, -C(=NH)-, or =CL-;

X, independently for each occurrence, represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl group;

Y, independently for each occurrence, represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl group;

Z, independently for each occurrence, represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl group;

A, independently for each occurrence, represents -NH- or -N=;

B, independently for each occurrence, represents a trisubstituted, sp²-hybridized carbon atom;

K, independently for each occurrence, represents =CL- or -CL₂-; and

L, independently for each occurrence, represents H or lower alkyl, wherein the cell is selected from the group consisting of liposarcoma cell, thyroid carcinoma cell and lymphoblast cell.

Claims 11-13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the cell is contacted with the bilin in vitro.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the cell is contacted with the bilin in vivo.

Claims 16 and 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein at least one occurrence of Y includes a carboxyl group.

Claims 19-22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the bilin is bilirubin or biliverdine.

Claim 24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the bilin is bilirubin or biliverdine.

Claims 26-43 (Cancelled)